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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/781,642	02/12/2001	Takashi Sugitou	55587(1004)	8394

21874 7590 10/24/2006

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EXAMINER	
POON, KING Y	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2625	

DATE MAILED: 10/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/781,642	SUGITOU ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	King Y. Poon	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *09 August 2006*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,2 and 7-9* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,2 and 7-9* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *12 February 2001* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 5/23/2006 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1, 2, 7, 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Beaudet et al (US 5,511,150).

For explanation of Beaudet, please refer to this example.

Example: copy printing job A is currently printed and displaying fig. 4I, (column 9, lines 5-15, column 9, lines 60-78). The display of 4I during printing of copy printing job A is now referred as display A. After copy printing job A is finished, the system go to subroutine X, fig. 3F, column 9, lines 10-20, and the fixed time (TP) is set to 0 (column 9, lines 13-15), subroutine X will lead to the display of fig. 4D which allowed the next interrupt copy printing job B to be entered, which will lead to the display of fig. 4I during

printing of copy printing job B (column 9, lines 1-15). The display of 4l for interrupt copy printing job B is now referred as display B.

Regarding claim 1: Beaudet teaches a multifunctional printing system (column 3, line 1) wherein image information captured through an image information pickup means (scanner, column 3, lines 10-15) can be printed as multiple sets of copies (column 1, lines 30-35) by a printing means (marking means, column 3, lines 20-25) and which is configured so that the printing operation can be stopped only at intervals from one set of copies to the next or every certain number of printouts, comprising: a computing means (control logics/programs of the copier, column 7, lines 9-12, column 10, lines 6) for calculating the time (display A) at which an interrupt copy and printing job (copy printing job B) can be entered next relative to an ongoing copying and printing job (copy printing job A), based on the designated number of print sets (column 9, lines 7-8, column 10, liners 1-5, column 1, lines 30-35), the current state of printing (the copier disable or not, column 6, lines 60-65), the information as to whether an interrupt is permissible (column 10, line 3); and a display means (display A) for displaying the permissible interrupt time calculated by the computing means or during such an interrupt job (copy printing job B) the finish time of the interrupt job calculated by the computer means (display B).

Regarding claim 2: Beaudet teaches a multifunctional printing system (column 3, line 1) wherein image information captured through an image information pickup means (scanner, column 3, lines 10-15) can be printed as multiple sets of copies (column 1, lines 30-35) by a printing means (marking means, column 3, lines 20-25) and which is configured so that the printing operation can be stopped only at intervals from one set of

copies to the next or every certain number of printouts and so that the printing operation needs to be stopped in order to allow an interrupt job (column 9, lines 9-20), comprising: a computing means (control logics/programs of the copier, column 7, lines 9-12, column 10, lines 6) for calculating the time at which an interrupt copy and printing job (copy printing job B) can be entered next (display A) relative to an ongoing copying and printing job (copy printing job A) and a finish tie of such request interrupt job, based on the designated number of print sets (column 9, lines 7-8, column 10, liners 1-5, column 1, lines 30-35), the current state of printing (the copier disable or not, column 6, lines 60-65), the information as to whether an interrupt is permissible (column 10, line 3); and a display means (display A) during such an ongoing copying and printing job (copy printing job B) for displaying the permissible termination time calculated by the computing means or during such an interrupt job (copy printing job B) the finish time of the interrupt job calculated by the computer means (display B).

Regarding claim 7: Beaudet teaches wherein the display means displays the time or time length in response to the operation of a dedicated key which allows for input of a display request (column 9, lines 4-10, fig. 4D, interrupt job is a dedicated key which allows the display of fig. 4I).

Regarding claim 8: Beaudet teaches wherein the display means displays the time or time length when the key for requesting an interrupt is operated (column 9, lines 4-10, fig. 4D, interrupt job is a dedicated key which allows the display of fig. 4I).

4. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beaudet as applied to claims 1, 2 above, and further in view of Brown et al (US 5,327,487).

Regarding claim 9: Beaudet does not teach a voice generating means for informing the time or the time length via voice is provided instead of the display means.

Brown, in the same area of transmitting message to a user in a copier environment teaches message can be conveyed to a user by display and voice message (column 3, lines 1-15).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Beaudet's message conveying method to include: a voice generating means for informing the time or the time length via voice is provided instead of the display means.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Beaudet by the teaching of Brown to have allowed blind person having the privilege of using Beaudet's copier machine.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed 5/23/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

With respect to applicant's argument that Beaudet does not teach the invention as claimed in clams 1 and 2; has been considered.

For explanation of Beaudet, please refer to this example.

Example: copy printing job A is currently printed and displaying fig. 4I, (column 9, lines 5-15, column 9, lines 60-78). The display of 4I during printing of copy printing job A is

now referred as display A. After copy printing job A is finished, the system go to subroutine X, fig. 3F, column 9, lines 10-20, and the fixed time (TP) is set to 0 (column 9, lines 13-15), subroutine X will lead to the display of fig. 4D which allowed the next interrupt copy printing job B to be entered, which will lead to the display of fig. 4I during printing of copy printing job B (column 9, lines 1-15). The display of 4I for interrupt copy printing job B is now referred as display B.

Regarding claim 1: Beaudet teaches a multifunctional printing system (column 3, line 1) wherein image information captured through an image information pickup means (scanner, column 3, lines 10-15) can be printed as multiple sets of copies (column 1, lines 30-35) by a printing means (marking means, column 3, lines 20-25) and which is configured so that the printing operation can be stopped only at intervals from one set of copies to the next or every certain number of printouts, comprising: a computing means (control logics/programs of the copier, column 7, lines 9-12, column 10, lines 6) for calculating the time (display A) at which an interrupt copy and printing job (copy printing job B) can be entered next relative to an ongoing copying and printing job (copy printing job A), based on the designated number of print sets (column 9, lines 7-8, column 10, liners 1-5, column 1, lines 30-35), the current state of printing (the copier disable or not, column 6, lines 60-65), the information as to whether an interrupt is permissible (column 10, line 3); and a display means (display A) for displaying the permissible interrupt time calculated by the computing means or during such an interrupt job (copy printing job B) the finish time of the interrupt job calculated by the computer means (display B).

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to King Y. Poon whose telephone number is 571-272-7440. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached on 571-272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

October 16, 2006

KING Y. POON
PRIMARY EXAMI